



KWC Scoring system

All contestants in the Karaoke World Championships are to be judged according to the following criteria, free from any personal bias whatsoever.

1. SCORING

For each category, each performer shall be scored from 1 to 10 points, (1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest.)

- 10 - Exceptional, outstanding
- 9 - Excellent, almost perfect
- 8 - Very good, but a few imperfections
- 7 - Very good, but several imperfections
- 6 - Good, but imperfections throughout
- 5 - Average
- 4 - Mediocre
- 3 - Unsatisfactory
- 2 - Deficient
- 1 - Disappointing

2. JUDGING CRITERIA

Judges shall award each performer between 1 and 10 points for each of the following 4 categories, based upon the following specific criteria:

VOICE:

- **Quality of Voice** - natural richness of tone, depth, resonance; a strong yet dulcet vocal sound that is enjoyable to listen to
- **Mastery of Voice** - development of the voice through practice and training to attain a higher level of proficiency and virtuosity
- **Range** - ability to hit low notes and high notes, and to glide smoothly through different ranges without strain
- **Dynamics** - use of quieter and louder volumes as appropriate; variance of volume throughout performance
- **Timbre** - ability to sing richer, deeper timbres as well as softer, sweeter tones; variance of colors throughout performance

TECHNIQUE:

- **Pitch** - ability to sing in tune and exhibit control of intonation
- **Timing** - ability to sing with rhythmic accuracy, taking liberties in a tasteful manner
- **Breathing** - supporting the voice with breath control, ability to sustain notes, taking breaths in correct places (generally between phrases)
- **Skill** - use of proper vocal technique (singing with an open palate, not shouting, not resonating in the nose, etc.), use and control of vibrato
- **Diction** - correct pronunciation of words and clarity

ARTISTRY:

- **Expressiveness** - exuding emotion and passion, as appropriate for song, conveyed through the voice, body, and facial expression
- **Musicality** - genuinely feeling the music, shaping phrases artistically, incorporating aesthetic nuances, taking liberties in a tasteful manner
- **Lyrical Ability** - appropriate interpretation and delivery of song lyrics, placing emphasis on certain words
- **Individuality** - deviating from original artist recording(s) to make the song one's own; creation of unique style and character
- **Song Choice** - appropriateness of the song for the singer

STAGE PRESENCE:

- **Charisma** - allowing personality to shine through performance and emanate from the stage; radiating a special X factor that is appealing, magnetic, and makes for star quality
- **Confidence** - exuding command of the stage, strength of delivery with a self-assured performance
- **Movement** - use of space, walking, dancing, or other movement appropriate for the song; use of arms; posture, poise, energy
- **Costume & Appearance** - brightly colored, light reflective, or otherwise attractive costume that is appropriate for song; polished presentation on stage and on camera
- **Audience Appeal** - ability to connect with audience, use of eye contact, crowd response

3. RANKING-BASED MODIFIED MEAN

In each round, the lowest-ranked score and the highest-ranked score for each singer shall be discarded to review along the original totals to ensure fairness.

4. SCORING PROCESS

Scoring will be cumulative over the first two rounds of songs. Points awarded for the 1st and 2nd rounds will be added together to determine who will move on to the next round (Semi-Finals Round). Points awarded during the 3rd round will be calculated separately and determine who moves into the final round. Points awarded during the 4th final round will determine the final standings and US Representative to move on to the KWC World Finals.

5. WILD CARD

Following the 2nd round, the jury may choose up to two (2) "Wild Card" contestants in each category (2 male + 2 female), who will continue on to the next round, regardless of scoring.

6. AUDIENCE'S CHOICE

Following the 2nd round, the audience may also choose one (1) "Audience's Choice" performer in each category (1 male + 1 female) to proceed to the following round, regardless of scoring.

7. SCORES WILL BE PUBLISHED

All scores shall be published after the competition. However, judges' names shall not be associated with those scores.